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Examiner Allan Hoosain  
Group Art Unit 2645  
USPTO

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**NOTE:****IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED****Re: Serial No. 10/037,411**

Dear Examiner Hoosain:

Please find attached a proposed amendment to claim 57 that we believe may be useful as a basis for our scheduled telephone interview. As we discussed previously, we will call you tomorrow (Tuesday, December 16) at 2:00 p.m. to review the proposed revisions. Thanks.

Jonathan A. Tyler  
Reg. No. 52,308

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Serial No. 10/037,411

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Patent Application**

Inventors P.M. Cox et al.

Case 41698.1034

Serial No. 10/037,411 Examiner Allan Hoosain

Filing Date October 24, 2001 Group Art Unit 2645

Title Method and Apparatus for Monitoring Telephonic Members and Providing  
Directory Assistance

**FOR INTERVIEW DISCUSSION ONLY (DO NOT ENTER)**

**Proposed Draft Amendment to Pending Independent Claims  
(With Markings to Show Changes)**

57. (currently amended) A method for managing a call from a caller to an information assistance service, the method comprising:

receiving signals associated with the call which include information concerning a local calling area associated with a communications device from which the call originates information concerning a first calling area associated with the call;

eliciting from the caller an information assistance request;  
searching a database for results responsive to the information assistance request, the results including a destination telephone number;

**Serial No. 10/037,411**

determining whether that a connection is to be made from the first local calling area to a second calling area outside the local calling area, the second calling area being indicated by the destination telephone number entails a service of a selected type;

determining whether the caller is authorized to have the connection which entails the service of the selected type made through the information assistance service based on a status of an account associated with the caller; and

making the connection when it is determined that the caller is authorized to have the connection made which entails the service of the selected type.

Page 20

have calling area, and ANI of non-hive calling area at a distance with  
number:

callbox

wherein the account comprises:

- allowed types of calls for the callbox
- information to be received by the callbox